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## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Disciplinary action against Officers on the M.S. BATORY	DATE DISTR.	20 June 1955
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1. Captain Meissner was accused of being responsible for the general slackening of discipline aboard the M.S. BATORY and of political sabotage.
2. The court of enquiry, which was composed of staunch Party members, found Meissner guilty on the first count but only "unconsciously guilty" on the second.
3. The sentence pronounced included the stipulation that Meissner was to be suspended from sea command indefinitely.
4. Pszeny, the first officer of the M.S. BATORY, has been taken off the ship but the findings of the court concerning him are not known. It is believed, however, that he will soon be at sea again, as he is a protege of the Party.
5. After the second hearing of the case against Meissner when he was found guilty of professional negligence but not guilty of sabotage, it was thought that he would be kept away from the sea for some time, but would eventually be reinstated.
6. However, the management of the Polish Ocean Lines was approached by the Party, who insisted on Meissner's immediate dismissal. Much against their will, the Polish Ocean Lines had to agree and Meissner was given notice of dismissal, details of which are not known.
7. The case is being widely discussed among the Merchant Marine personnel and has resulted in a general feeling of apprehension and depression. Meissner was a prominent and popular figure in the Merchant Marine and it is felt by the rank and file that they are all in danger of similar proceedings at the slightest provocation.

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